

From: Frank Widmayer
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 3:18 PM
To: Steve Ledoux
Subject: RE: CPC - skate park proposal

Steve,

Skate parks are notorious for attracting bad activity, e.g. drugs, tagging, assaults and other problems. Such areas attract many youths who are not willing to follow rules and it provides a convenient place for them to do what they like with no adult supervision and no one witnesses around to see what is happening.

If you add more lighting it may become more attractive at night as the place to go for skateboarding. That could be ok but there will always be the fringe groups around doing their thing in the surrounding darkness. There are many towns that have closed their skate parks because they were causing too many problems for the police to handle. It is a common problem and not just in Acton. Even during the day there are issues that come up so it's not just a nighttime problem.

If there were funding available to put up more lighting along with security cameras then it might solve some of the trouble. Although it wouldn't surprise me to see the cameras shot out by BB guns after a while. We patrol the area quite frequently but officers can't be there all the time.

In short, these problems are not new or unique to Acton.

Regards,
Frank
Frank J. Widmayer III
Chief of Police
978-263-2911

From: Steve Ledoux
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 1:16 PM
To: Frank Widmayer
Subject: FW: CPC - skate park proposal

Steven L Ledoux
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When writing or corresponding, please be aware that the Secretary of State has determined that most email is a public record and, therefore, may not be kept confidential.

From: Janet K Adachi [<mailto:jkajeg@msn.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 12:02 PM
To: Steve Ledoux
Subject: CPC - skate park proposal

Steve,

Do you know, or can you find out, what the police think are the reasons for the problems at the skate park, and how best to curb those problems? Cathy Fochtman and some CPC members think that the parking lot lighting would help to deter bad actors from hanging out in the skate park. Others think that better lighting will encourage more activity--positive and negative-- in the skate park at night. Thanks. Janet